

REMARKS


Entry and consideration of this Preliminary Amendment are respectfully requested prior to or concurrent with calculation of the filing fees.

This Preliminary Amendment was filed to amend claim 3 to remove the multiple dependency and to add new claim 18. Claim 18 is the same as claim 3, except that it depends from claim 2 rather than claim 1. With new claim 18 added, the original scope of all of the claim 3 is maintained.

Examination on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP

By: 
Michael A. Makuch, Reg. No. 32,263
1850 M Street, N.W., Suite 800
Washington, D.C. 20036
Telephone: (202) 263-4300
Fax: (202) 263-4329

Date: January 13, 2006